

Superintendent of Indiana Women's Prison Appointed

Media Contact:

Department of Correction

Java Ahmed

(317) 234-1693

E-mail: jahmed@doc.in.gov

“Ms. Cotton has demonstrated excellent leadership qualities and a strong commitment to the Indiana Department of Correction, she is a natural fit at the Indiana Women's Prison with her expertise in programming and operations.”

Commissioner, J. David Donahue

Indianapolis, Indiana – (February 12, 2007) – J. David Donahue, Commissioner of the Department of Correction has appointed Ms. Zettie R. Cotton, as the new superintendent of the Indiana Women's Prison effective March 12, 2007.

“Ms. Cotton has demonstrated excellent leadership qualities and a strong commitment to the Indiana Department of Correction,” said J. David Donahue. “She is a natural fit at the Indiana Women's Prison with her expertise in programming and operations.”

Cotton has been with the Department of Correction for 33 years. She began her career in 1974 as a correctional officer at the former Indiana Girls' School, and has made great strides. She has a broad range of expertise in management, custody, programs and operations of facilities in adult male and female and also juvenile management. Ms. Cotton previously held assistant superintendent positions at IWP, Putnamville, Reception-Diagnostic Center; superintendent at Pendleton, and the Indianapolis Men's Work Release Center. She also served on an Audit Development Team with Central Office.

Most recently, Ms. Cotton served as the Assistant Superintendent of the Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility. She served on the leadership team and managed the day-to-day operations for 240 juveniles.

“Zettie is a passionate, driven correctional professional with a diverse portfolio. I am confident that her management style will elevate the programming opportunities for female offenders,” added Donahue.

Zettie follows Chris Meloy, newly-appointed Chairman of the Indiana Parole Board, who managed the facility from 2005-2006.

“I am honored by this opportunity,” said Ms. Cotton. “I appreciate Commissioner Donahue's confidence

in my leadership.”

The Indiana Women’s Prison, which opened in 1873, is located in Near-East Side Indianapolis. The maximum security facility houses 440 females. It has gained national recognition for its innovative techniques.

Ms. Cotton holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from Indiana University and also received her Master of Arts in Education - Guidance and Counseling at IUPUI.

About the Department of Correction

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 24,000 adult and juveniles in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department’s home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection>. The Department’s Re-entry Site can be found: <http://www.reentry.in.gov>.